

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 727

By Tracy

A RESOLUTION urging the Attorney General and Reporter to join the *amicus curie* brief in the case of District of Columbia, et al v. Heller, Docket No. 07-290, filed by the Attorney General of the state of Texas.

WHEREAS, for the first time since 1939, the United States Supreme Court has accepted a case involving a Second Amendment challenge to a firearms law; and

WHEREAS, the case challenges ordinances enacted by the District of Columbia which, on its face, essentially prohibit a citizen from ever possessing a handgun or an operable long gun, even in the citizen's own home; and

WHEREAS, in finding that the ordinance violates the United States Constitution, the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia, held that the Second Amendment confers an individual right to bear arms rather than a collective one; and

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court of the United States granted the petition for a writ of certiorari to the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia to hear the question of whether the District of Columbia ordinances violate the Second Amendment to the Constitution of the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Attorneys General in 31 states have signed an amici brief prepared by the Attorney General of the state of Texas and filed with the Supreme Court on February 11, 2008, supporting the decision of the Court of Appeals in this case and urging that it be upheld;

WHEREAS, the citizens of Tennessee, long known as the Volunteer state, has an illustrious history of serving this country when circumstances required the use of firearms to protect freedom and liberty; and

WHEREAS, in order to continue to serve this country in times of need, as well as the self-defense of Tennessee citizens, it is important to this state that the Second Amendment be construed as conferring upon individuals the right to possess firearms; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that the Attorney General and Reporter of Tennessee is urged to join the amicus curie brief in the case of District of Columbia, et al v. Heller, Docket No. 07-290, filed by the Attorney General of the state of Texas with the United States Supreme Court on February 11, 2008.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared and transmitted to the Honorable Robert Cooper, Attorney General and Reporter, state of Tennessee.